Fatima Meer: Memories of Love and Struggle

Fatima Meer was a South African anti-apartheid activist, writer, and academic. She was a close associate of Nelson Mandela and played a key role in the struggle against apartheid.



Fatima Meer: Memories of Love and Struggle

by Sarah J. Hodder

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

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Early life and education

Fatima Meer was born in Durban, South Africa, on August 12, 1928. Her parents were Indian immigrants who had come to South Africa in the late 1800s. Meer grew up in a poor family and attended a local Indian school. She was a bright student and excelled in her studies. In 1946, she enrolled at the University of Natal, where she studied English and history.

Anti-apartheid activism

Meer became involved in anti-apartheid activism while she was a student at the University of Natal. She joined the African National Congress (ANC) and participated in a number of anti-apartheid protests. In 1952, she was arrested for her involvement in the Defiance Campaign. She was sentenced to six months in prison.

After her release from prison, Meer continued to work for the ANC. She played a key role in the planning and execution of the 1956 Women's March on Pretoria. The march was a protest against the apartheid government's pass laws. Meer was arrested again for her involvement in the march and was sentenced to two years in prison.

Meer was released from prison in 1958. She continued to work for the ANC and became a close associate of Nelson Mandela. In 1960, she was arrested again for her involvement in the Sharpeville Massacre. She was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Meer was released from prison in 1970. She continued to work for the ANC and became a leading figure in the anti-apartheid movement. She wrote a number of books about apartheid and the struggle for freedom in South Africa. She also worked with the United Nations to promote human rights.

Later life and legacy

Meer died in Durban, South Africa, on March 13, 2010. She was 81 years old. She is remembered as one of the most important figures in the struggle against apartheid. Her work helped to bring about the end of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic South Africa.

Personal life

Meer was married to Ismail Meer, a fellow anti-apartheid activist. They had three children. Meer was a devout Muslim and a strong advocate for women's rights.

Awards and honors

Meer received a number of awards and honors for her work, including the Order of the Baobab from the South African government and the Jawaharlal Nehru Award from the Indian government.

Fatima Meer was a remarkable woman who dedicated her life to the struggle for freedom and justice in South Africa. She was a close associate of Nelson Mandela and played a key role in the anti-apartheid movement. Her work helped to bring about the end of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic South Africa.

Meer is an inspiration to us all. Her story is a reminder that even the smallest of us can make a difference in the world.

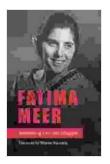


Fatima Meer, a South African anti-apartheid activist, writer, and academic[/caption>

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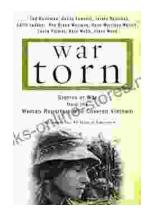
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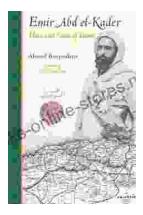
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